

# Life Group Discussion Guide

Isaiah: Yahweh Alone Is God

Week 4: A New Thing • Isaiah 42:18-43:21

Read Isaiah 42:18-43:21 together. Focus on recurring themes, words, and phrases. As you reflect on this passage and Pastor Jon's message, what are your initial impressions or takeaways? What stood out to you most?

## God's Failed Servant

**Isaiah 42:18-20** introduces the concept of the servant of the Lord, who is supposed to be a light to the nations. However, the servant is described as blind and deaf, highlighting Israel's failure to live up to its calling. "You have seen many things, but you pay no attention; your ears are open, but you do not listen" (**Isaiah 42:20**).

- How do you interpret this call to awareness in your personal life? Can you share a moment when you were spiritually blind or deaf and how you began to see or hear God more clearly?
- What are some areas in your life where you might be spiritually blind or deaf? How can we help each other become more aware of God's truth?

## God's Redeemed Servant

Despite Israel's failure and the resulting exile, God promises redemption. He reassures his people that they are still his, having been formed and redeemed by Him. Pastor Jon talked about how the Lord is both our creator and redeemer:

*God takes a personal interest in us because he made us, he's our creator, and there's a way forward for us after we fail because he's a redeemer. And who of us has not failed? He says, I have redeemed you. I have summoned you by name; you are mine... The reason the gospel exists is because God is both creator and redeemer."*

- What does it mean to be redeemed?
- How does the concept of being redeemed by God influence your understanding of salvation? Share how this redemption has impacted your life personally.

**Isaiah 43:1** "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine."

- How does knowing that God calls you by name impact your sense of identity and security?
- **Isaiah 43:4** emphasizes God's unwavering love. How does this persistent love influence your relationship with God? How can we demonstrate this kind of love within our group and to others?

# God's Servant as Witness

God calls his people to be his witnesses to the nations, testifying to his unique nature and saving power. Despite their past failures, they are chosen to demonstrate his glory and proclaim his sovereignty.

- **Isaiah 43:7** How do you understand your life's purpose in light of being created for God's glory? How does this purpose influence your daily choices?
- **Isaiah 43:10** states, "You are my witnesses," declares the Lord. What does it mean to you to be a witness for God in your daily life? How can you more effectively embrace and fulfill God's call in your life? What steps can you take to grow as a witness for Him?
- **Isaiah 43:11-13** proclaims there is no savior apart from God. How does understanding the exclusivity of God shape your faith and evangelism efforts?

# God's New Thing

God promises to do a new thing, bringing about a transformation that surpasses even the miracles of the past. He speaks of a new exodus, leading his people through challenges and providing for them in miraculous ways.

- Reflecting on **Isaiah 43:18-19**, how does hope in God's faithfulness affect your outlook on the future? What are some practical ways we can cultivate hope within our group?
- In **Isaiah 43:19**, God says, "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" What new things do you believe God is doing in your life or community right now? How can we become more perceptive to God's new works among us?
- Consider the big idea from Pastor Jon's message: **What you think God is doing is not big enough**. God's plans and actions are always greater than we can imagine (**Ephesians 3:20**). Knowing this, why do we often limit what God can do in and through our lives?